UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/702,486	10/31/2000	Yat-Sang Hung	1515	9822

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EXAMINER
JAMAL, ALEXANDER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2643	

DATE MAILED: 04/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/702,486	HUNG ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Alexander Jamal	2643	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *26 November 2004*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-9,14-18 and 21-24* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-9,14-18,21-24* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.   **Claims 1-9,14-18,21-24** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Yamartino (6345095), and further in view of Gabara (6292557).

As per **claim 1,** Yamartino discloses a subscriber terminal comprising a

microprocessor (Col 6 lines 54-61), and memory that is inherent to the processor for the

purpose of storing the telephone number database (Col 3 line 18-25). The telephone

number database is a phone book stored in memory, with the phonebook defining a

plurality of telephone numbers. There are digit sequences stored in the telephone number

database (Col 3 line 18-25). Yamartino further discloses that that the processor receives

user entered digits, determines if the digits entered represent an incomplete set of digits,

and if the number is recognized, adds the additional numbers to the entered number to

make a complete set of telephone digits (Col 4 lines 53-67) (Col 5 lines 18-30). The

terminal may send the completed set of digits to a communications network (Col 12 lines

27-37). However, Yamartino does not specify that if digits entered do not match the end of the phone numbers in the database, the first part of the number stored in memory is automatically added to the entered digits to establish a complete set of digits (Col 9 lines 42-63).

Gabara teaches a system in which the exchange code (first three digits) of a 7-digit number entered by the user is examined and an area code (stored digit sequence) added to the 7-digit number to form a complete telephone number (Col 4 line 55 to Col 5 line 10). When combined with Yamartino's system, Yamartino's device will check the complete number and prepend the appropriate sequence if a match of digits at the end of a stored telephone number if identified, but Gabara's system will additionally prepend the appropriate area code onto numbers which do not match digits at the end of a stored telephone number (only the 3 digit exchange number). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of this application to implement Gabara's system with Yamartino's system for the advantage that users may enter in 7 digit numbers not stored within Yamartino's database and still have the device prepend an appropriate area code (based off the exchange code) to complete the telephone number.

As per **claim 5,** Claim 5 is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1. The complete set of digits is a composite telephone number.

As per **claim 15,** claim rejected as a method performed by the device described in the rejection of claim 1.

As per **claim 21**, claim 21 is rejected for the same reasons as claim 15, and the following additional information disclosed by Yamartino. The processor will sense the length of the digits entered by the user (either the subscriber number or the exchange and subscriber numbers together) and, depending on the length, will select the appropriate digit sequence(s) (Col 4 line 53 to Col 5 line 18). Based upon the length and values of the digits, if the user entered digits (such as the exchange and subscriber digits) that correspond to an area code, then the area code is prepended onto the entered number, (Col 9 line 64 to Col 10 line 15). The length of the input digit sequence is taken into account by the terminal as the terminal may respond by adding either the area code or area code+exchange code as appropriate.

As per **claim 22**, claim 22 is rejected for the same reasons as claim 21.

As per **claim 24**, claim 24 is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1.

As per **claims 2,7,** Yamartino's terminal comprises a routine in which the user may enter in digit sequences to be stored in the telephone number database (Col 7 lines 24-37).

As per **claims 3,6,9,16,17** Yamartino's terminal may be wireless or landline (ABSTRACT).

As per **claims 4,8,** In Yamartino's terminal, a 'send' button (on a keyboard) may be pressed to interact with selector 155 (Fig.1) (Col 6 lines 37-52) at which point selector 155 will communicate with Call Generator 160(Col 10 lines 30-37) to begin to complete the translation from the digits entered by the user to a complete telephone number that is dialed out.

As per **claim 14,** Yamartino's terminal will sense the length of the digits entered by the user (either the subscriber number or the exchange and subscriber numbers together) and, depending on the length, will select the appropriate digit sequence(s) (Col 4 line 53 to Col 5 line 18). A user may enter in a 4 digit subscriber number or a 7 digit telephone number without an area code , and the system will prepend the appropriate digits (such as the area or exchange code given from the phonebook database) to the entered digits.

As per **claim 18,** Yamartino in view of Gabara discloses applicant's claim 15, as well as using a 'send' button (such as a keyboard button) in order to indicate to the terminal that the user has a made a selection (Col 6 lines 37-52). However, they do not specify using a send button to indicate the use of a send button to signify the user is done entering digits (and as such, have the second logic execute after the send button has been pressed).

Yamartino discloses the use of a keyboard (send button) (Col 6 lines 37-52). He

also discloses that his terminal may respond to user inputs of variable numbers of digits,

or to a code character such as # or * (Col 4 line 62 to Col 5 line 18). It would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of this application to implement the

use of a send button to signify the user is done entering a digit string for the purpose of

allowing the terminal to be able to recognize when the user has finished entering a

particular digit string.

As per **claim 23,** Yamartino in view of Gabara discloses a method in which a user

can enter in a predesignated amount of digits (4 is given as example) in order to initialize

the system. Once the system is initialized the appropriate set of numbers from the

telephone database are appended (or prepended) onto the entered digits to complete a

standard telephone number (Col 9 line 64 to Col 10 line 15). However they do not

disclose the abbreviated extension input being 5 digits.

Yamartino discloses that the initialization of the terminal may be determined by a

predesignated number of input digits (Col 4 line 44 to Col 5 line 18). Once the system is

initialized the appropriate digit sequence can be prepended onto the abbreviated number

based upon the length of the input abbreviated number. As such it would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of this application to choose an

arbitrary number of digits that could be entered to initialize the system for the advantage

of allowing the user the greatest range of flexibility in determining the length of the

abbreviated extension and corresponding digit sequences to be prepended onto the

extension.

Response to Arguments

3.   Applicant's arguments filed 11-26-2004 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

As per applicant's arguments that the Yamartino and Gabara fail to teach pre-

pending digits based upon the failure to find digits at the end of a number in all pending

independent claims. Examiner notes that the rejections are based on the combination of

both references. Gabara teaches an improvement to the dialing system disclosed by

Yamartino. Yamartino discloses a system intended to provide complete phone numbers

to callers entering in partial numbers. In the situation that the user provides an exchange

number and a subscriber number (YAMARTINO: Col 5 lines 6-11), the system will

search a database and produce a list of valid numbers in reference to the entered

information (YAMARTINO: Col 7 lines 35-67). Gabara teaches the improvement to

Yamartino that provides for the situation in which Yamartino's list of valid numbers does

not contain any valid numbers (for example, if the subscriber number was not found in

the database). Gabara's procedure must happen after Yamartino's procedure in order for

Gabara to cure the deficiency of Yamartino. Gabara's system teaches the improvement

that the area code of a number can be pre-pended to an entered number based only on the

exchange code, not the subscriber number. The system of Yamartino in view of Gabara's

does comprise the steps of searching a database, and pre-pending numbers to a user

entered number. In Gabara's system alone, the prepended numbers are chosen based on

an association of the exchange and area codes (digit sequences stored in memory). In

Yamartino in view of Gabara, the prepended numbers are added based on Yamartino's

search failing, then Gabara's search succeeding. If Yamartino's search succeeds, then the

numbers will be added and Gabara's system will not prepend any numbers, it will send

the complete 10-digit telephone number to generator 29 (GABARA: Col 4 line 57 to Col

5 line 11).

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing

date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Alexander Jamal whose telephone number is 571-272-7498. The

examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9AM-6PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Curtis A Kuntz can be reached on 571-272-7499. The fax phone numbers for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular

communications and 703-872-9315 for After Final communications.

AJ
April 7, 2005

GEORGE ENG
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ARY EXAMINER